20th March 1929]

Irrigation

Extension of wet cultivation in the Kistna delta.

* 1799 *Q.*—The ZAMINDAR OF MIRZAPURAM: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(i) to lay on the table a statement showing the talukwar areas in the Kistna delta for which water applications were accepted since the construction of the six feet shutters over the Kistna Aniout at Bezwada; and

(ii) to state—

(*a*) how much of the above area was cultivated with wet crop prior to the construction of the six feet shutters and how much of the area has been subsequently cultivated with the wet crop;

(*b*) the definite instructions issued for the guidance of the Public Works Department officers in the matter of accepting applications for water for extension of wet cultivation in consequence of the facilities afforded by the construction of the six feet shutters; and

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to furnish villagewar statistics showing the area further available for cultivation with wet crop in each village commanded by the Kistna delta, for how much of it water can be allowed under the existing circumstances and how long it will take before the maximum irrigated area is reached?

A.—(i) So far as the Kistna Eastern delta is concerned the reports received from the local officers are incomplete and further information has been called for. The system of water applications is not in force in the Kistna Western delta.

(ii) (*a*) As regards the Kistna Eastern delta the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (i). In the Kistna Western delta the increase in wet cultivation prior to the installation of the shutters was gradual and was in 1924–25, 16,124 acres in excess of the figure for 1920–21, and in 1927–28, 9,994 acres over the figure for 1925–26. But talukwar figures are not available and have been called for.

(*b*) The Government, as observed in the answer to clause (i), have called for complete information in regard to the Kistna Eastern delta. Generally the rules observed are that lands situated in wet blocks and on the same level as the adjoining wet lands and those which cannot keep out water percolating from the adjoining lands, and lands which are already raising unauthorized wet crops are treated as eligible for inclusion. Applications will not be accepted for lands which can raise a dry crop.

(*c*) Until the special division proposed to be sanctioned in April 1929 investigates and submits its report, it is not possible to give villagewar figures, nor can it be stated how long it will take before the maximum irrigated area is reached. It is expected that water will be available for the irrigation of about 35,000 acres in the Kistna Eastern and about 40,000 acres in the Kistna Western delta.

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Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the water for the irrigation of 35,000 acres in the Kistna Eastern delta is for ordinary wet crop or does it include short crop ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" That is a matter under investigation. I believe it will be short crop."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, what advantage there is in allowing water to short crop when water is available for ordinary crop ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The Government are of opinion that enough water will be available for short crop after providing for the ordinary crop."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" With reference to answer to clause (c) that water will be available for the irrigation of 40,000 acres in the Kistna Western delta, may I know whether the Government intend taking special steps to bring into existence any particular scheme of irrigation out of the many schemes that were already submitted to Government ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not follow the hon. Member."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" There were some schemes like Appapuram Project which were taken up by Government and later on given up. I want to know whether such schemes are being investigated by Government."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I must ask for notice."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether Vempadi Project and extension of Kistna East Bank Canal Scheme for which some money was provided in the last year's budget are included in this ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" If the hon. Member refers to the Vempadi Project, that is being proceeded with."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, in case the Government find water available, whether they will be prepared also to consider pumping schemes ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Any suggestion the hon. Member makes will be considered."

Land Revenue Establishment

Alleged kicking of an idol by the Tahsildar of Gudiyattam.

* 1800 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(*a*) to lay upon the table the papers connected with the kicking of a Hindu idol by Mr. Gnanaprakasam on a previous occasion when he was acting as Tahsildar of Gudiyattam ; and

(*b*) to state whether it is a fact that his claims for confirmation as tahsildar were overlooked by Mr. Leach, the permanent Collector of the district, and whether he was confirmed as tahsildar by the acting Collector Mr. A. Appadurai Pillai ?

A.—(*a*) After considerable search an anonymous petition has been found preserved in the Secretariat records of March 1926. The Government do not propose to give it publicity now.

(*b*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative and to the second in the affirmative.